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**EG&G ROCKY FLATS, INC.**

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**Robert M. Nelson, Jr.**  
**Manager**  
**DOE, RFO**

This letter is for the attention of G. N. Huffman, DOE/RFO regarding the enhancement of evaporation at the solar ponds.

**EG&G proposes to enhance evaporation at the solar ponds through the following measures:**

- (1) Improved energy absorption by maintaining pond water color dark with "Blue Lace" coloring and floating black styrofoam type balls.
- (2) Surface wetting of pond freeboard surfaces by circulating pond water in Black PVC type piping with drainage holes. Piping located inside upper lip of ponds. Piping secured by threading through cinder blocks. The freeboard areas will be painted as necessary to remain a flat black absorbent surface.
- (3) Artificial heating of pond water through the temporary installation of heat trace around the supply piping to piping in (2) above. Heat trace will limit temperature to 150° F.
- (4) Installation of night time covers to minimize radiant heat losses

Engineering details and drawings are being prepared by EG&G for submission with a request for change in interim status. These ideas have been informally coordinated with Fred Dowsett of CDH in the presence of Joanne Comins-Rick of DOE/RFO and have received encouragement.

Preliminary calculations indicate that we could achieve solar pond drying by mid-summer 1991 at very low cost and fully support the controlling path (water) for cleaning the ponds out by October 1991. Getting all pondcrete offsite per the Agreement in Principle remains hostage to regulatory issues.

This approach would preclude the very costly path of portable evaporation which may be a difficult regulatory issue at best.

R. V. Morgan, Director  
Waste Operations

SWD: akb

Orig. and 1 cc - R. M. Nelson, Jr.

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BY G.T. JAMES 820  
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